



RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare,
Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH)

National
Recovery Month
Prevention Works • Treatment is Effective • People Recover

Rally4Recovery

For Immediate Release

Contact: Deb Varga (401) 462-0192
dvarga@bhddh.ri.gov
BHDDH Media Relations

Rhode Island Rally 4 Recovery Selected as 2013 National Hub Recovery Event

The Event is Hosted by the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) and the RI Recovery Month Coalition

Cranston, RI, February, 2012 – The Providence, Rhode Island Rally 4 Recovery has been selected by Faces & Voices of Recovery as the 2013 National Hub event for Rally celebrations taking place across the country. The announcement was made by the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals and the Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition, co-sponsors of the event. The Rally is held to raise awareness about drug and alcohol addiction, mental illness, developmental disabilities and the journey to recovery.

Rallies take place in September of each year, throughout the nation, as part of National Recovery Month. In 2013, Rhode Island's Rally 4 Recovery will be web streamed, linking it with other rallies nationwide. A & E will broadcast it throughout the country as the National Hub event. In addition to local and State officials, the 2013 celebration will feature nationally-recognized speakers from the White House. National advocacy groups will also attend. The 2013 Rhode Island rally will be a co-sponsor of Waterfire, as it was in 2011 and will be in 2012.

“Our rallies provide an opportunity for us to celebrate those who are in recovery and to illustrate that access to quality services and supports enable those with substance use and mental health issues, in addition to individuals with developmental disabilities, to recover and live more rewarding lives,” says Craig Stenning, Director of BHDDH.

Speakers at the event announcing the selection included Governor Lincoln Chafee, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Congressman James Langevin, Congressman David Cicilline and Mayor Scott Avedisian. Jim Gillen, Director of the Anchor Recovery Community Center and Ian Knowles, Director of RICARES also spoke.

These events are part of National Recovery Month, an initiative of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), within the Department of Health & Human Services. The goal of this initiative is to increase the understanding of behavioral health and reinforce the message that prevention works, treatment is effective and people can and do recover.

About the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals

BHDDH is committed to assuring access to quality services and support for Rhode Islanders with developmental disabilities, mental health and substance abuse issues and chronic, long-term medical and psychiatric conditions. In addition to planning for the development of new services and prevention activities, the department's mission includes addressing the stigma attached to these disabilities.

About the Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition

The Rhode Island Recovery Month Coalition strives to help improve the quality of life of individuals in recovery and highlight their accomplishments. The coalition includes treatment and recovery service providers, family members, and friends and advocates of recovery.

About Faces & Voices in Recovery

Faces & Voices of Recovery is dedicated to organizing and mobilizing the over 20 million Americans in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, families, friends and allies into recovery community organizations and networks. The purpose is to promote the right and resources to recover through advocacy, education and demonstrating the power and proof of long-term recovery.

###